

Chuck,

Just inquiring about your availability to do a session of the History of Art and Technology class in the winter. It's on T. eve in Louis Aud, 6-9, and your date and info would be:

1/20

History of Artists' Use of Film - Chuck Kleinhans

Cinema was one of the first modern arts to be based in a new technological apparatus: photochemical, mechanical, and optical. While rapidly expanding into the commercial entertainment market, cinema was also of great interest to artists seeking new possibilities for expression and communication. This discussion will highlight some moments in the 1920s of intense radical aesthetic and social activity in media arts, and its continuation later in the 20th century. My central thesis is that new forms do not simply arise from innovative technological possibilities or ahistorical stylistic evolution, but often often emerges from the needs and demands of new social groups for expressive forms to deal with their social/political/historical reality. Work by Maholy-Nagy, Richter, Vertov, and recent work by feminist, gay, and African American artists.

Reading:

Murray Smith, "Modernism and the avant-gardes," The Oxford Guide to Film Studies, ed. John Hill and Pamela Church-Gibson (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998), pp 395-412.

Paul Hertz is directing the Center this year while I'm on leave, so please let us both know whether you'd be available and if there would be any changes or if you want us to rent something. As you will recall, there's an honorarium of \$400.

Hope you're still interested, it was a great session last time,

Annette

Hello,

I have given all the NU faculty for CAT393-493 "instructor" access to the CAT393 History of Art and Technology website. Short of providing them with NU accounts, I don't think that I can do this for non-NU teachers, since Blackboard has licensing restrictions.

Instructors can post announcements and course materials, host and post to forums, etc.--all the Blackboard functions you want in one

conveniently clunky interface. I think the Discussion Forums may have the most potential as aids to the course, but what you do with Blackboard is up to you. I just thought it would be useful to have full access.

I have folded the single graduate student, Abigail Derecho, into the undergraduate section, to simplify things. There may be a second graduate student, Erin Hersher, auditing the course.

You can also request that Li Zeng <l-zeng@northwestern.edu>, our TA, post materials. This is what I suggest for non-NU teachers.

The first class meets this coming Tuesday. Quartet copies is supposed to have all course materials ready on Monday.

You can also contact Ian Eccleston <i-ecleston@northwestern.edu>, the CAT Program Assistant, for questions regarding the Center for Art and Technology.

And of course you can contact me as the instructor of record for the course, the one who reads and grades the term papers and may be called upon to lay down the law and dry the dishes. I will be at most if not all the lectures.

The quality of the lecturers and the breadth of the content should make this an exciting course for all of us, teachers and students. I am looking forward to it. I hope to learn much I never knew before.

best.

-- Paul

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Paul Hertz <paul-hertz@northwestern.edu>

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Co-Director, Center for Art and Technology, Northwestern University

<<http://www.cat.northwestern.edu/>>